

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 1-17 stand rejected. Claims 9 and 17 are amended herein. The Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks and allowance of claims 1-17.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as failing to claim patentable subject matter. Claim 17 has been amended to overcome the rejection.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,160,871 (Duree) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,133,919 (Bormann). However, the Duree reference and the present application are both owned by Sprint. Under U.S.C. § 103 (c), the Duree reference shall not preclude patentability. The rejection is therefore improper and should be withdrawn.

Based on the above remarks, the Applicant submits that the claims in their present form are allowable. Additional reasons in support of patentability exist, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of clarity and brevity. The Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims. Included herewith is payment for the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2) for a two-month extension of time (37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)). Applicant believes no additional fees are due with respect to this filing. However, should the Office determine additional fees are necessary, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 21-0765 accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

/Stephen S. Roche/

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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